

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition comprising sunscreening-effective concentrations of avobenzone, zinc oxide and phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid.
2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent.
3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 0.5 to about 4 weight percent.
4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 to about 3 weight percent.
5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of zinc oxide is about 1 to about 25 weight percent.
6. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of zinc oxide is about 5 to about 15 weight percent.
7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of zinc oxide is about 6 to about 25 weight percent.
8. The composition of claim 1, which is in the form of an emulsion.
9. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent, the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 to about 3 weight percent and the concentration of zinc oxide is about 6 to about 25 weight percent.
10. A sunscreen composition comprising avobenzone, zinc oxide and sufficient phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid to stabilize the avobenzone against photodegradation.

11. The composition of claim 10, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent, the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 0.5 to about 4 weight percent and the concentration of zinc oxide is about 1 to about 25 weight percent.

12. The composition of claim 10, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent, the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 to about 3 weight percent and the concentration of zinc oxide is about 5 to about 15 weight percent.

13. The composition of claim 10, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent, the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 to about 3 weight percent and the concentration of zinc oxide is about 6 to about 25 weight percent.

14. A method for protecting the skin against ultraviolet radiation, comprising applying to the skin an effective amount of the composition of claim 1.

15. A method for protecting the skin against ultraviolet radiation, comprising applying to the skin an effective amount of the composition of claim 10.

16. A method for protecting the skin against ultraviolet radiation, comprising applying to the skin an effective amount of the composition of claim 13.